

## Biography : JANE WONG

After mastering alphabet puzzles and the words “cat” and “dog” in her E.S.L (English as a Second Language) class, Jane Wong has finally found her voice in creative writing. Unbeknownst to her elementary teachers, her mother took out thirty library books in a woven tote a week. Jane modeled her first story after her favorite author at the time – R.L. Stine. Her first story was entitled “The Evil Begins”. However, while it is sad to say that Jane has since moved away from her *Goosebumps*-themed writing, she soon became influenced by society’s expectations. Society pushed her into a box labeled “Asian Kids: Science and Math Whizzes”. Should she become a doctor, like her mother hoped? Attending a microbiology program at Rutgers her freshmen year at Monmouth Regional High School, writing seemed to have taken to the backburner. In a lab coat, she became disconcerted. It was not until her return trip from China and the junior English assignment “Americana”, did a literary light bulb go off. To her surprise, her teacher Mrs. Liebenberg pushed her towards English, neither ignoring her nor pointing towards the norm. Embracing her Chinese-American culture and experience, she wrote while re-learning what writing meant to her. After attending the Governor’s School of the Arts: Creative Writing, she discovered writing forms once shied away from, such as poetry. She also discovered that waking up every morning without slippers and writing is not an easy task. However, she can only hope to be so lucky as to do so in the future – cold feet and all.